

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q74947

Yasuhide ODASHIMA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/550,270

Group Art Unit: 1742

Confirmation No.: 3137

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: July 6, 2006

For: HORIZONTALLY CONTINUOUSLY CAST ROD OF ALUMINUM ALLOY AND
METHOD AND EQUIPMENT FOR PRODUCING THE ROD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith copies of Communications from a foreign patent office in counterpart applications citing such documents (Office Action issued June 30, 2008 in Japanese Patent Application No. 2004-019979 and an Office Action issued June 30, 2008 in Japanese Patent Application No. 2004-103945), together with an English-language version of at least that portion of the Communications indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations: Applicant is submitting English-language abstracts for JP 01-092039, JP 04-190947, JP 58-221611, JP 62-286623, JP 01-147039 and JP 58-100016, which constitute a concise explanation of the relevance of these documents.

Applicant is submitting English-language abstracts and machine translations for JP 2003-027171, JP 07-311179, JP 2003-019533, JP 02-192860, JP 07-040017 and JP 11-254093, which constitute a concise explanation of the relevance of these documents.

In addition, JP 58-221611 corresponds to U.S. 4,545,227, and JP 2003-027171 corresponds to U.S. 2003/0026726.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not

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waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

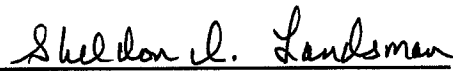
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Date: January 23, 2009


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